

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 06590

HOLD FOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO DEFENSE INITIATIVES: MISSION COMMENT ON
FINAL DRAFT TOR FOR TASK FORCE ON RATIONALIZATION

REF: (A) USNATO 6526, DTG 071117Z JUL 77; (B) STATE
125556, DTG 312351Z MAY 77; (C) STATE 151934, DTG 292318Z
JUN 77

SUMMARY: ON THE WHOLE, WE BELIEVE THE RATIONALIZATION TOR
CONTAIN THE US SUGGESTED APPROACH OF REFS B AND C. SINCE
THE EWG, AT ITS JULY 15 REINFORCED MEETING, WILL ADDRESS
TOR FOR NINE SEPARATE TASK FORCES, US OBJECTIVES FOR THE
RATIONALIZATION TOR MUST NOT BE FORMULATED IN ISOLATION
FROM THE OTHER EIGHT, BUT SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN THE
CONTEXT OF THE OVERALL APPROACH THE US INTENDS TO ADOPT
FOR THAT MEETING. THUS, THIS TELEGRAM SIMPLY FORWARDS
OUR COMMENT AND IS NOT A REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE. WE ARE
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DEVELOPING AN OVERVIEW MESSAGE THAT WILL SYNTHESIZE OUR
COMMENT, FORWARD OUR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE APPROACH THE US
SHOULD ADOPT FOR THE JULY 15 MEETING, AND CONTAIN OUR
FORMAL REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. REF A FORWARDED THE TOR FOR THE TASK FORCE ON
RATIONALIZATION. ON THE WHOLE, WE BELIEVE THE TOR CONTAIN
THE US SUGGESTED APPROACH OF REFS B AND C. WE DO NOTE,

HOWEVER, THAT THE TOR MAKE NO PROVISION FOR: (A) DIVIDING PROPOSED ACTIONS EXPLICITLY INTO TWO CATEGORIES: (1) NEAR AND MID-TERM MEASURES (1979-1984) AND (2) LONG TERM MEASURES (1985-1990) AND BEYOND; (B) FORECASTING THE LONG TERM THREAT; AND (C) DEVELOPMENT OF STANDARDIZATION PACKAGES OF COMMON FAMILIES OF EQUIPMENT.

2. WITH RESPECT TO NEAR AND LONG TERM LEVELS FOR PRO-POSING ACTION PROGRAMS, SINCE THIS OMISSION IS COMMON TO OTHER TOR, WE WILL SUGGEST IN OUR TOR OVERVIEW REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE A RECOMMENDED US POSITION FOR THE JULY 15 EWG.

3. PARAGRAPH C.4 "ASSUMPTIONS" SPECIFICALLY DIRECTS THAT, WHEN DEVELOPING ITS PROPOSALS, THE TASK FORCE CONSIDER THE "AGREED THREAT" AS DESCRIBED IN "AGREED NATO DOCUMENTS." THIS DICTUM IS A RESULT OF THE FORMULATION IN THE MODEL TOR. WASHINGTON MAY WANT TO CONSIDER MODIFYING THE ASSUMPTIONS PARAGRAPH RATHER THAN INSERTING THREAT FORECASTING AS AN ADDITIONAL OBJECTIVE.

4. INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE TASK FORCE DIRECTOR (ASYG LABERGE) HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE RATIONALIZATION TOR ARE INTENDED TO DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH IMPROVEMENTS IN NATO STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY CAN BE ACHIEVED. DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC STANDARDIZATION PACKAGES OF COMMON FAMILIES OF EQUIPMENT MAY BE TOO

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SPECIFIC A TOPIC TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE TASK FORCE AS AN OBJECTIVE IN ITSELF. THE TOPIC COULD BE CONSIDERED AS AN ITEM UNDER PARAGRAPH B.3.B AND RAISED BY THE US MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE. STREATOR

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